

Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility

Celanese Acetate LLC

**Celco Plant
Route 460/3520 Virginia Ave
Narrows, VA 24124
Congressional District 9
EPA ID #: VAD005007679
Last Updated: 06/18/2008**

Current Progress at the Site

In January 2006, Celanese Acetate, LLC (Celanese) entered into a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III (USEPA), Facility Lead Agreement (Agreement) under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and agreed to conduct environmental investigations and perform remediation, as necessary to meet RCRA Corrective Action Goals. Prior to entering the Agreement, a National Corrective Action Prioritization System (NCAPS) ranking was prepared for the Celco Site in 1996. Since then, Celanese has performed numerous voluntary environmental evaluations and corrective actions at the facility, many of which have been in cooperation with Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ).

In March 2006, A Draft Final RCRA Site Visit Report was prepared by USEPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which consolidated relevant information from the USEPA site visit conducted in October 2005.

In March 2006, Celanese met with USEPA/VDEQ to present an overview of activities completed at the Celco Facility.

In May 2006, Celanese submitted a Site Strategy Workplan and Schedule to USEPA and VDEQ to address Corrective Action at the facility.

In June 2006, Celanese submitted a Fact Sheet to USEPA and VDEQ.

Celanese submitted a Description of Current Conditions (DOCC) Report and a Community Relations Plan to USEPA and VDEQ in October 2006.

An Annual Report, updated Fact Sheet, and updated Site Strategy Workplan and Scheduled was submitted to USEPA and VDEQ in December 2006.

In April 2007, Celanese met with USEPA to present an overview of activities completed at the Celco Facility.

In October 2007, USEPA and VDEQ were provided a site tour of the Celco Site.

An Annual Report, updated Fact Sheet and updated Site Strategy Workplan and Schedule were submitted to USEPA and VDEQ in December 2007.

In addition to the actions listed above, during 2007, Celanese has completed the construction of several remedial actions at the facility which have direct oversight by VDEQ, including: Closure of Pond B; Closure of Ponds 2&4; Implementation of the CPSL remedy; and, implementation of the ammonia discharge remedy. These actions are described in detail in the Description of Current Conditions (DOCC) document submitted to USEPA and VDEQ in October 2006.

EPA and VADEQ continue to a review the submittals.

Site Description

The Celco Plant is located east of Narrows, Virginia along U.S. Route 460. The plant occupies approximately 1231 acres and is divided into two major areas separated by Route 460. The plant area located adjacent to the New River, and the landfill area located on the hillside north of the plant area. The site is located in the Valley and Ridge physiographic province and is underlain by sequences of clastic and carbonate rocks. The geology is complex with faulting, karst features, and reworked terrace deposits associated with the New River.

The Celco Plant has been in operation since late 1939 and manufactures fiber-based products. Raw materials in the formulation of cellulose acetate are cellulose (wood pulp), acetic anhydride, acetic acid, sulfuric acid, and magnesium oxide. The facility utilizes an onsite power plant that burns bituminous coal to produce steam and electricity at the site. Wastes are managed in on-site landfills, wastewater treatment operations, surface impoundments, regeneration/ recycling, and off-site treatment and disposal.

Site Responsibility

RCRA Corrective Action activities at the Celco Plant are being conducted under the direction of U.S. EPA Region III, in coordination with VADEQ. Several existing and ongoing closures and other remedial activities are currently being conducted under the direction of VADEQ.

Contaminants

Based on available information, there are no known imminent threats to human health or the environment from the Celco Plant. The major constituents being investigated include volatile and semi-volatile organics and inorganics including metals.

Institutional Controls

The need for institutional controls will be evaluated.

Community Interaction

Celanese has an established Community Advisory Panel (CAP) which is informed annually (more often if requested) regarding facility operations and activities.

- A meeting of the Celco Community Advisory Panel was conducted on 08 November 2006 at the Celco Tech Center.
- A meeting of the Celco Community Advisory Panel was conducted on 05 November 2007 at the Celco Tech Center.

Government Contact

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For more information about EPA's corrective action Web page, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm

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